Strengthening our communities

community /k-ˈmyü-n-tē/

A unified body of individuals working together.
Getting to know the United Federation of Teachers

The UFT represents over 200,000 members — New York City public school teachers, paraprofessionals, guidance counselors, social workers, psychologists, school secretaries, nurses, administrative law judges and family child care providers, just to name a few.

union /ˈyoon-ən/  
The act of joining together for a common purpose.
Part of your community

For over fifty years, the United Federation of Teachers has committed itself to strengthening our communities, our schools and the lives of our students. Through their hard work and dedication, UFT members are making the city a better place to live and work every day.

compassion /kəm-ˈpa-SHən/
The act of helping others, especially those who are struggling.
Nurses

Family Child Care Providers

Paraprofessionals

Teachers

Nurses
Helping students succeed –
In the classroom and beyond

Each and every student deserves a quality education and the opportunity to succeed. Not only are UFT members working hard to make a difference in the lives of students every day, but the union has also committed itself to helping students and parents outside of the classroom as well. From the Dial-A-Teacher homework helpline and the Albert Shanker scholarship program to the BRAVE anti-bullying hotline and programs like CookShop, the UFT is dedicated to going above and beyond for all New York City children.

success /sək-ˈses/  
Helping others achieve a favorable or desired outcome.
Supporting and empowering parents

The UFT has a dedicated parent and community liaison in every borough to help parents access and navigate the school system. The union also supports parents through regular workshops, conferences and informational meetings to help them better advocate for their children.

listen /ˈli-sən/
To hear something with thoughtful attention.
Partnering with the faith community

Faith-based institutions and organizations are the cornerstones of many communities. Our relationships with the faith-based community are based on mutual respect, collaboration and support. Working together, the UFT and its faith-based partners are making a huge difference in the lives of New Yorkers every day. We seek to strengthen relationships with those in the faith-based community who share in our vision, passion and commitment.

faith /ˈfɑːθ/
A set of beliefs or principles that include sincerity, truth, values and trustworthiness.
Promoting Respect and Collaboration

Annual Faith-Based Breakfast

Clergy Standing Together on Behalf of Schools

Promoting Respect and Collaboration
Fighting for our schools

Every day, we work hard to secure resources and supports for our schools, reduce class sizes and overcrowding, enhance academic programs and services that kids depend on, ensure safe and secure classrooms, broaden college and career opportunities and expand quality child care and pre-K options for families.

**commitment** /kə´mit-ment/
Engagement, involvement and fulfilling a pledge, promise or obligation.
News Conference on PCBs in Schools

Rallying for Early Child Care

Outrage Over Budget Cuts

Fighting Against School Closures
Lending a helping hand

Helping others in need is all part of daily life for UFT members, many of whom dedicate their time and energy to charities and service-oriented projects. From supplying homeless children with backpacks full of school supplies to helping fellow union members rebuild their homes in flood-ravaged upstate New York, UFT members can be counted on to answer the call again and again. In schools, teachers regularly organize events like read-a-thons, clothing drives, bake sales and food donations to teach students the importance of contributing and giving back to the community. What’s more, in the aftermath of September 11th, the UFT established its Disaster Relief Fund which continues to funnel much-needed funding and supplies to relief efforts across the city and around the globe. The spirit of giving and helping is unionism at its finest.

relief /ri-ˈlēf/
Removal or lightening of something oppressive, painful or distressing.
Rebuilding Homes

Donating Backpacks and School Supplies

Rebuilding Communities

Helping Schools Recover in New Orleans

Rebuilding Lives
Supporting causes

Bringing people together in the name of causes is another big component of our union’s work. From advocacy on behalf of our students and school communities to standing up for the rights of others, the UFT is always in the forefront when it comes to causes that will make our city a stronger and better place to live and work.

advocacy /ˈad-vo-kə-sē/
Active support of a person, organization or cause.
Advocating for social, civil and economic justice

We at the United Federation of Teachers are committed not only to improving our schools but also our communities where we work and live. We believe everyone deserves the opportunity to achieve the American Dream — a secure job, a safe home and a quality education. The UFT has been steadfast in its pursuit of equality in education and its support of civil rights. We strive to educate and empower people to promote positive change.

justice /ˈjæst-ɪs/  
Acting on behalf of moral rightness, truth, equity and equality.
Community Groups, Unions and Students March on Wall Street

Supporting Immigrant Rights

Standing Up Against Voter Suppression

Labor and Community March for the 99%
Celebrating our diversity

The richness of our diverse cultural heritage, backgrounds and experiences is alive and well in our schools and communities. UFT members and our students come from countries all over the world and there are schools where literally dozens of languages are spoken. It is that diversity that makes our schools and city so strong, and the UFT is proud to celebrate that diversity. We take great pride in participating in many community activities, events like Harlem Week, the West Indian Day Parade, the Puerto Rican Day Parade, the St. Patrick’s Day Parade, just to name a few.

**div·er·si·ty** /də-ˈvər-sə-tē/
Exemplifying and respecting different elements or qualities.
West Indian Day Parade

Supporting Families in Chinatown

Hellenic American Annual Heritage Celebration

Marching for Jobs and Justice in Washington DC
For more information about the UFT and its work, please visit us online at www.uft.org.

The UFT proudly supports its parent, community and faith-based partners. Working together, our unwavering commitment and dedication to helping others will continue to strengthen our schools and move our city forward. The work is seldom easy and the challenges often seem insurmountable, but our advocacy is about hope, not hate; about unity, not divisiveness. Success will come only by working together.

Thank you for your support and friendship.

Michael Mulgrew
President, United Federation of Teachers
Quick Facts:

**Dial•A•Teacher**
A multi-lingual staff of classroom teachers assists students with homework questions during the school year, Monday through Thursday, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. The number to call is (212) 777-3380.

**The Albert Shanker College Scholarship Fund**
The Albert Shanker College Scholarship Fund – For more than forty years, the UFT has proudly awarded $1 million annually in undergraduate and graduate scholarships to deserving New York City public high school students. For more information, visit our website: www.uft.org/scholarship-fund.

**BRAVE**
BRAVE stands for Building Respect, Acceptance and Voice through Education. The BRAVE anti-bullying hotline — (212) 709-3222 — is available for students to call, text or online chat with, Monday to Friday, 2:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

**CookShop**
The Food Bank For New York City’s free nutrition education program helps children and adults develop nutrition knowledge and cooking skills to make healthy food choices on a limited budget.
synchron·ized /ˈsiNG-kra-nizd/
Operating in unison.